

notes

A Publication for the Residents of Phoenix

January 2004

Help police catch graffiti vandals

Phoenix Police take a special interest in graffiti.

Those gang markings you see on buildings, fences, stop signs, fire hydrants and other places around the city tell them a great deal.

Most gang graffiti, they say, is territorial and is used to mark boundaries of a gang neighborhood. The markings, which usually consist of gang names, initials or nicknames, serve as an advertisement for the gang to the residents and as a warning to rival gang members.

One gang can insult another gang by crossing out the other's graffiti. Such insults are usually not ignored and often result in physical assaults or shooting retaliations.

You can help police catch those involved in graffiti by calling 911 if you see someone in the process of doing graffiti vandalism.

If you have information about someone

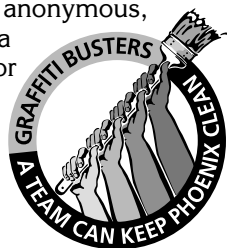
who may be involved in graffiti vandalism, call the Graffiti Hotline at 602-262-7327.

Calls to the hotline are anonymous, and you could receive a reward of up to \$250 for providing information that leads to an arrest or identification of a graffiti vandal.

If you spot graffiti, call Neighborhood Services' Graffiti Busters at 602-495-7014, or e-mail graffiti.busters.nsd@phoenix.gov and someone will be sent out to paint over the markings.

Police say that neighborhoods that get involved in such groups as Block Watch tend to have far less graffiti than other neighborhoods.

For more information, call Detective Joseph Robles at 602-495-5286.



Get your new bus book



The new Valley Metro Bus Book featuring new routes and schedule changes takes effect Jan. 12.

You can get your copy at city libraries, municipal buildings and on all local buses.

It also is online at ValleyMetro.org.

If you need help planning a transit trip, call 602-253-5000 or 602-261-8208/TTY.



Light rail comfort – Valley artists have completed the design of the seven downtown light rail stations, including this one for McDowell Road and Central Avenue. The stations feature multiple shade elements such as overhead canopies, vertical panels with louvers similar to horizontal blinds, vine trellises and trees to keep passengers comfortable while waiting for a train. The first phase of the light rail system will stretch 20 miles from north Phoenix to Mesa and is scheduled to be completed in December 2006.

Heavy rains bring danger

Rain usually is a welcome sight in the Phoenix desert.

However, dry stream beds, gullies, creeks, culverts, shallow streams, washes and even low lying ground that appear harmless in dry weather can produce flash floods quickly.

So don't drive around street barricades or try to cross water-filled areas.

During storms and heavy flooding, sand for sand bags is available at some fire stations. You can find the station nearest you that has sand by calling 602-262-6297.

People whose homes are located in areas that are subject to flooding should consider purchasing flood insurance, through the National Flood Insurance Program, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Contact your local insurance agent for information.

To find out if you are in a flood hazard area, call 602-262-4960 or visit the Floodplain Management Section of the Street Transportation Department, fifth floor, Phoenix City Hall, 200 W. Washington St.



Groups, individuals honored

Fourteen individuals, organizations and businesses that contributed leadership or services that improved the quality of life for low-income Phoenix residents were recipients of awards at the 32nd annual Community Recognition Awards Dinner.

Honored and the categories in which they won were: Religious, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church; Civic, Corporation for National and Community Service; Media, Sharon Sass and Sebina Allen of Arizona Nutrition Network/Arizona Department of Health Services; Business, American Management Services West Pinnacle; Public Service, Sunshine Group, Social Security Administration Call Center; Youth Development, Diane R. Sanchez; Oscar Douglass Youth Development, Jennifer Gutierrez; Workforce Connection, Ben Carter; Senior Services, Sharon Hoelscher Day, Bone Builders Program; Carl Lightcap Senior Services, Bill Ho; Education, Janice Ertl, director, Medical/Dental Clinic, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul; Community Services, Terry Davis; and Golden Heart, Robert Donofrio.

City opens affordable housing campaign

Who needs an affordable place to live? More people than you might expect.

A variety of residents who live and work in Phoenix from day care providers to recent graduates, to bus operators to teachers all need affordable places to live.

An affordable place to live means a household pays no more than 30 percent of its annual income on housing.



The Phoenix Commission on Housing and Neighborhoods and the city Housing and Neighborhood Services departments will launch a

yearlong public awareness campaign this month to raise awareness about the need for affordable housing.

Look for posters and billboards around the city that feature the slogan, "Meet another member of our community who needs an affordable place to live."

For more information on the campaign, call 602-495-6929.

Needle art on display

Local and national needle artists will display their work Feb. 14 to 29 at the 20th Biennial Phoenix Needlework Show at Shemer Art Center, 5005 E. Camelback Road.

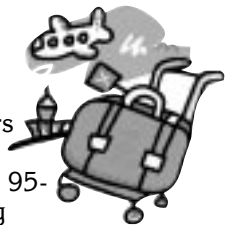
Admission is \$5 (youngsters 17 and under are free) and proceeds will benefit A Stepping Stone Foundation, an organization that helps at-risk children and their families.

For more information or to place an entry in the show, call 602-262-4727 or send a self-addressed and stamped envelope to: Gloria Zanella, 441 S. Maple, #45, Mesa, AZ 85206-5716.

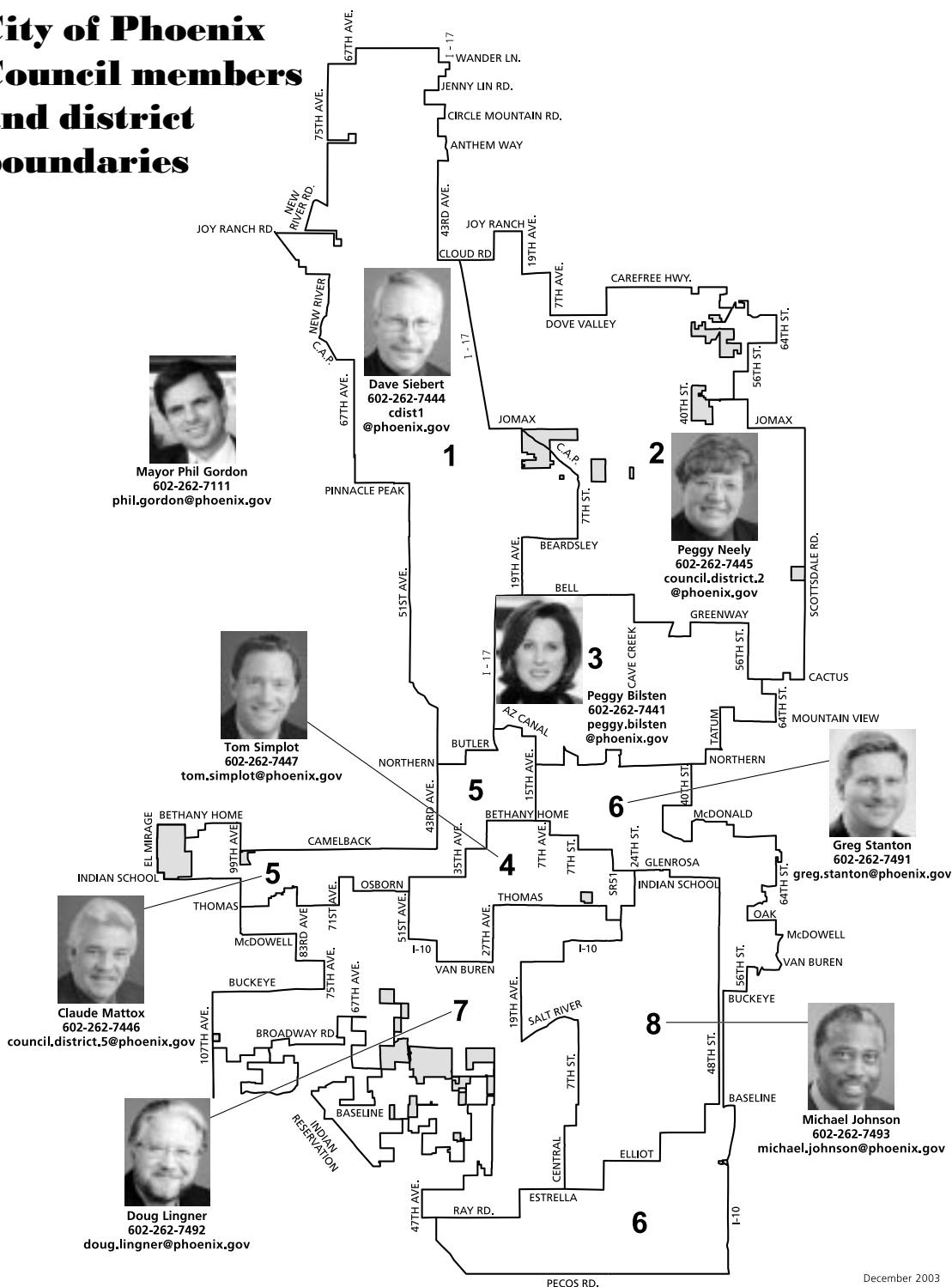
Seniors go home for holidays

A Phoenix man flew to San Francisco to visit a 90-year-old cousin he hadn't seen in 20 years and a Phoenix woman flew to Louisiana to be with her 80- and 95-year-old sisters who are in failing health and whom she hadn't seen in 12 years.

The two were among 25 senior citizens who received free roundtrip airline tickets to visit friends and family around the country as part of the 24th annual "Home for the Holidays" program sponsored by Southwest Airlines and the city Human Services Department, Senior Services Division.



City of Phoenix Council members and district boundaries



December 2003

Public Works plans BOPA collection events

Phoenix residents can dispose of household hazardous waste and other items at BOPA collections 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 19 to 21 at Paradise Valley Park, 17642 N. 40th St., and March 18 to 20 at Ahwatukee Recreation Center, 5001 E. Cheyenne Drive.

In addition to batteries, oil, paint and antifreeze, the event will accept five automobile or light truck tires per resident, computers and household appliances,

including refrigerators, stoves, evaporative coolers, air conditioners, washers, dryers and water heaters.

Commercial loads will not be accepted.

The city also will pick up household appliances and computers at your home for a \$10 fee. Call to schedule a collection. For information, call 602-262-7251, send e-mail to pwserve@phoenix.gov or visit phoenix.gov/GARBAGE.

Matsuri Feb. 28 - 29

Exhibits, demonstrations, arts and crafts, children's activities, food, entertainment and a special dance group from Himeji, Japan, will highlight next month's Matsuri, A Festival of Japan.

The free event will be 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 28 and 29, at Heritage and Science Park, Seventh Street and Monroe Avenue.

Chinese Week celebrates Year of Monkey



The city will celebrate the Chinese New Year 4702 – the Year of the Monkey – with cultural, educational and sporting events at the 14th annual Chinese Week, Feb. 2 to 8, hosted by the Phoenix Chinese Week Committee and the Phoenix Sister Cities Commission.

The highlight will be a Culture and Cuisine Festival, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at the Chinese Cultural Center, 668 N. 44th St., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8. Admission is free, but parking is \$2.

Also, a performance by the Chengdu Acrobatic Group from Phoenix's sister city of Chengdu, China, will be 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Orpheum Theatre, 203 W. Adams St. Tickets are available at the Civic Plaza box office at 602-262-7272.

Other planned events include volleyball and table tennis tournaments, short story and arts and crafts contests for youth, a puppet show and a traditional gourmet Chinese New Year Banquet at 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8, at Great Wall Restaurant, 5055 N. 35th Ave.

Additionally, the city will host a free art exhibit 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 2 to 6 at Phoenix City Hall, 200 W. Washington St.

For a list of the week's events, call 602-534-3751 or visit phoenix.gov/CALENDAR/chinesewk.html.

Black history topic of luncheon

Discover how African-Americans played a key role in the development of Arizona with Dr. Matthew C. Whitaker, assistant professor of history at Arizona State University, at the city of Phoenix Faces of Diversity Brown Bag lunch series noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at Phoenix City Council Chambers, 200 W. Jefferson St.

For more information, call 602-261-8242 or 602-534-1557/TTY.

Homeless need help staying warm

With the return of winter weather, many of the community's homeless need blankets, clothing and other necessities to keep warm. You can help by donating needed items to the city so they can be distributed to the homeless.



New or clean used blankets are the highest priority, although clean jackets, knitted caps, coats, underwear and socks also are needed.

Donated items, which are tax deductible, may be delivered until March 12 to any of the city's five Family Services Centers. Centers are located at: Travis L. Williams, 4732 S. Central Ave; Central Phoenix, 1250 S. Seventh Ave.; Sky Harbor, 1818 S. 16th St.; John F. Long, 3454 N. 51st Ave.; and Sunnyslope, 914 W. Hatcher Road.

For more information, call 602-262-4520.

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Public Information Office
200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
602-262-7176
phoenix.gov

Phoenix City Council

Mayor Phil Gordon	602-262-7111
Greg Stanton, Vice Mayor	
& District 6	602-262-7491
Dave Siebert, District 1	602-262-7444
Peggy Neely, District 2	602-262-7445
Peggy Bilsten, District 3	602-262-7441
Tom Simplot, District 4	602-262-7447
Claude Mattox, District 5	602-262-7446
Doug Lingner, District 7	602-262-7492
Michael Johnson, District 8	602-262-7493

Garbage/Trash Service	602-262-7251
Landfill/Disposal Information	602-262-7251
Recycling	602-262-7251
Water/Wastewater	602-262-6251

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City of Phoenix